

following amendments and comments as set forth below. Please amend the Application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

On page 1, line 7, following "*No-Thread Fishing Equipment*", please insert --  
**now U.S. Patent No. 5,970,650.--**

IN THE CLAIMS:

For the convenience of the Examiner, all pending claims of the application are reproduced below. Please amend the claims as follows:

**Claims 1-9 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.**

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10. (**Amended**) A no-tie fishing apparatus for a fishing device comprising:  
a fishing line having a first end; and  
a sliding loop formed on the first end of the fishing line **with a diameter that may be increased and decreased** for releasably engaging the fishing line with the fishing device.

N.E. 11. The fishing apparatus of Claim 10, wherein the fishing line comprises a tippet.

N.E. 12. The fishing apparatus of Claim 10, wherein the fishing line comprises a leader.

N.E. 13. The fishing apparatus of Claim 10, further comprising the fishing line having a second end with a fixed loop disposed thereon.

N.E. 14. The fishing apparatus of Claim 10, wherein the fishing line further comprises:  
a first section having a first end and a second end;  
a second section having a first end and a second end;  
the sliding loop formed on the first end of the first section; and  
the second end of the first section releasably engaged with the first end of the second section.

N.E. 15. The fishing apparatus of Claim 14, wherein the first section comprises a tippet, and wherein the second section comprises a leader.

16. (Amended) The fishing apparatus of Claim 14, further comprising:  
a first fixed loop formed on the second end of the first section; [and]  
a second fixed loop formed on the first end of the second section; and  
the first fixed loop and the second fixed loop releasably engage with  
each other.

17. (Amended) A method for fabricating a no-tie fishing apparatus for a fishing device comprising:  
providing a fishing line, the fishing line having a first end; and  
forming a sliding loop on the first end of the fishing line for releasably engaging and  
disengaging the fishing line [with] and the fishing device without untying the sliding loop.

N.E. 18. The method of Claim 17, wherein the step of forming a sliding loop comprises:  
forming a first loop with a first end of the fishing line;  
forming a second loop with the first end of the fishing line, the second loop formed adjacent the first loop;  
wrapping the first end of the fishing line through the first and second loops and around a central portion of the fishing line; and  
drawing the first end of the fishing line away from the first and second loops to form the sliding loop.

19. (Amended) The method of Claim 17, further comprising forming a first fixed loop on a second end of the fishing line.

20. **(Amended)** The method of Claim 19, wherein the fishing line further comprises:  
a first section having a first end and a second end;  
a second section having a first end and a second end[, **the first end of the second section**  
**releasably engaged with the second end of the first section; and**];

wherein the step of forming a sliding loop comprises forming the sliding loop on the first  
end of the first section[.]; **and**

**releasably engaging the first end of the second section with the second end of the**  
**first section.**

21. **(Amended)** The method of Claim 20, further comprising:

forming a **second** fixed loop on the second end of the first section; **[and]**

forming a **third** fixed loop on the first end of the second section; **and**

**releasably engaging the first end of the second section with the second end of the**  
**first section by releasably engaging the third fixed loop with the second fixed loop.**

22. A sliding loop formed on one end of a fishing line by a sliding loop knot, the  
sliding loop knot formed by a method comprising:

forming a first loop with a first end of the fishing line;

forming a second loop with the first end of the fishing line, the second loop formed  
adjacent the first loop;

wrapping the first end of the fishing line through the first and second loops and around  
a central portion of the fishing line; and

drawing the first end of the fishing line away from the first and second loops to form the  
sliding loop knot.

**Claims 23-39 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.**

Please add new Claims 40 and 41.

-- 40. (New) A fishing apparatus for releasable engagement with a fishing device

*Sub 2*  
comprising:

a fishing line having a first end with a sliding loop formed on the first end of the fishing line;



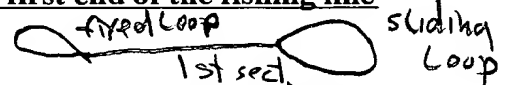
the sliding loop providing means for releasably engaging the fishing line with a fishing device;

the fishing line having at least a first section and a second section;



the first section and the second section having respective first ends and second ends;

the first end of the first section corresponding with the first end of the fishing line with the sliding loop formed thereon;



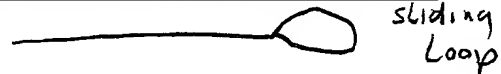
a first fixed loop formed on the second end of the first section and a second fixed loop formed on the first end of the second section; and

the first fixed loop and the second fixed loop releasably engaged with each other.

41. (New) A fishing apparatus for releasable engagement with a fishing device

comprising:

a fishing line having a first end with a sliding loop formed on the first end of the fishing line;



the sliding loop having a diameter which may be decreased and increased to respective engage and disengage the fishing line and a fishing device;

the sliding loop formed by a sliding loop knot defined in part by a first loop and a second loop;

the second loop formed adjacent to the first loop;

the first end of the fishing line wrapped through both the first loop and the second loop and around a central portion of the fishing line;

the first end of the fishing line drawn away from the first loop and the second loop to form the sliding loop knot; and

the sliding loop knot operable to slide along to the fishing line to increase and decrease the diameter of the sliding loop.--